

Bite Me

by averious

Category: Fairy Tail

Genre: Drama, Romance

Language: English

Characters: Lucy H., Natsu D.

Status: In-Progress

Published: 2016-04-13 16:32:23

Updated: 2016-04-18 11:21:15

Packaged: 2016-04-27 18:42:33

Rating: M

Chapters: 2

Words: 7,196

Publisher: www.fanfiction.net

Summary: In a world torn by conflict and war, a battle between humans and vampires rages on. Natsu Dragneel, the vampire prince of Magnolia, has come to a sudden point in his life where he needs to find his mate. Little does he know, his mate just so happens to be closer than he thinks. â€"vampire!au dark(ish)!natsu/lucy [mostly sexual content and strong language]

1. Chapter 1

_Dedicated to Sarah and your love for vampires. _

****WARNING: contains sexual content and strong language****

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><p>Chapter 1: The Woman In Gold**

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><p>"Fiore, a world filled with vampires and humans, terror roams at every corner, its land spilled with ancient blood.

_A great war had once raged between the two races, both conflicted with ideas of peace, they battled until they came to an agreement to split the Fiore in two. The Vampires fled to the west and the humans fled to the east. Regardless of their so called truce, the human race continues to decline rapidly. Vampires, thirsty for blood and land has pillaged small human villages, stealing their wealth and resources back to their homeland. Kidnapping humans back as blood banks until they are thrown away when they do not have a single ounce of blood left. Some humans are kept as slaves and others, in rare cases, beome mated to their destined vampire. _

_Vampires are human-like. They have sharp canine teeth and cold pale skin. They have a particular craving for blood on a daily basis and

it is required for them to live. However, they can also eat what humans eat. They eat food as substance to help growth and to ease the same hunger we feel. However, it is essential for them to drink blood and they will not be able to go a week without it or, unfortunately, they will fall to the ground and die a slow and painful death. Because of their scarce resource of humans they usually feed off farm animals. Of course, to them, they will always favour the taste of human blood._

Clan Fairy Tail currently rules Magnolia, it stands as one of the most notable vampire reigned kingdoms in the west." -An extract from Levy Mcgarden's book: An Introductory To A World Of Hate

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><p>Natsu Dragneel, vampire prince of Magnolia, released a weary sign as he stared at the strange mark on his arm. He was drained to the point of exhaustion and he had not done anything but listed out instructions to a few of the soldiers. It was because of the damn mark, he supposed. His father had told him during a session when he was younger that the mark was meant to symbolise that his so-called mate was near and it was only a matter of time before he met her (though, he never told him any of the side effects that came with it). Everyone had told him (and teased him) with explicit detail the process of claiming a mate. He chuckled inwardly to himself. If it was 4 years ago he would've blinked in utter innocence. But now, 21 years old and the attraction of many women and men at royal balls, he had enough practice to know what to do when the time came.<p>

He had things to attend later during the day. He had to meet nobles, question prisoners, charm visitors and most importantly, drink some delicious crimson blood. He unconsciously stuck his tongue out and licked his fangs at the thought, but the pain on his arm ruined the mood instantly.

Lately he had been having dreams, _very good _dreams for that matter. For the past few days, he had dreamt of a blonde woman, but he was never able to see what she really looked like. Every time she appeared she would glow in a luminous light, shielding a good portion of her face with a cloud of white mist, leaving only her pink lips in was something about her that gave a brilliant vibe of all that was good, all that was pure. It was as if she was an angel that had descended from heaven. Natsu felt himself sigh.

She was utterly beautiful.

She had golden locks and curves at all the right places, her skin was soft and pale and he remembered vividly, the smile that curled against her full lips. He never got the chance to remember her voice or anything they had talked about. All he could remember was the feeling of absolute ecstasy when he felt taste of her lips, the vibration of her groans and moans against his mouth, the way she was pressed against him so perfectly-

The thought of her sent a shiver down his spine. Who was this mysterious woman that plagued his dreams? Was it his mate? Or was it merely a wet dream of someone else? Even if so, it was definitely not the woman he last slept withâ€”because the woman in gold did not feel the slightest bit like her.

Not to mention, _she _had white hair.

His fingers clenched around his arm trying to relieve the pain, but to his dismay, it only made it worse. Images of his dream flashed before him and his eyes went dizzy with lust and confusion. He had to find this woman quick or she was going to be the death of him.

"Hey, hot-head, you all right there?" Gray asked as he leaned against the pillar next to him. The black haired vampire knight seemed perfectly fine half naked as he basked in the winter air.

"I'm fine." Natsu replied sharply and then winced, "How did you manage to deal with this?"

Gray shrugged and played with the sword in his hand. "I got my mate almost immediately I got my mark. But maybe that's because my mate just so happened to be my stalker."

Natsu rolled his eyes and groaned in frustration. Damn Gray for getting his mark first. Damn Gray for having a mate that was so conveniently there. Damn Gray for being Gray. The fact that his best knight got a mate before he did (and he was the prince of Magnolia for crying out loud!), really got on his nerves.

"If the mark is hurting this much, then where is she?" Natsu growled as he continued to battle against the pain.

"Maybe somewhere in town?"

"You're a real help you know that?" He gritted out sarcastically.

Gray laughed and shook his head, "She'll come eventually. Give it time. Remember Gajeel had to suffer for an entire month before he got Levy? You only got your mark 3 days ago so relax flame brain."

"Who are you calling flame brain, ice dick?" He muttered pathetically as he tried to bite back the pain.

Gray scoffed and turned his back before he started to walk away. "While you don't have a mate, I have a mate to get back to. Have fun staying horny and in agony!"

If it wasn't for his position and the fact that he might be his best friend-enemy, Natsu would've ripped his guts out ages ago.

With a strangled sigh he slowly composed himself and walked into the throne room where three massive seats were placed in the middle. Originally, there had only been two, one for him and one for his father, but after the news of his mark they quickly added an additional throne for his mate. He stared bitterly at it, wondering when the hell was she going to arrive.

For the rest of the day he sat there. Listening to the requests and complaints from the townspeople, boring old advisors rambling off, designers asking for _which shade of fucking pink _should they use to tailor his new clothes (honestly, they all looked the same), the reports from their soldiers and so much more. Half of the time he answered with mild interest and other times he simply nodded his head while his mind was occupied with _the woman_. He wondered what she

would sound like, would her voice be sweet and high pitched or low and sexy? Would her lips feel as soft as he had dreamed? Would her-

"Milord?"

He snapped back to reality and found Erza, captain of the troops, standing there with her helmet held against her waist as her eyes looked at him with slight worry.

"You've been sitting there for hours. Is everything all right?"

He nodded and rubbed the crook of his neck. "Yes. Everything is fine, Captain. I've just been thinking about a few things."

She gave him a look that told him she didn't seem to be convinced at all. Erza cleared her throat and her eyes narrowed slightly. "Milord, I bring news of clan Sabertooth. Our watch towers across the Fiore are slowly being taken down by their savages, sir, they've raided a few of our supplies and killed a handful of good men. I fear their clan may be growing by the amount of propaganda their leaders are sending out to the people. My messengers have reported that there has been an increase in recruits for Sabertooth."

He furrowed his eyebrows as his pent up frustration and anger began to boil within him. His fingers twitched as his eyes danced with fury. For a brief moment, Erza had a flash of fear painted on her face but it quickly went back to her usual stone faced expression.

Clan Sabertooth and Clan Fairy Tail had been rivals for centuries. Sabertooth was filled with mercenaries, sadistic savages who thirsted for human blood. Most of the kingdoms in the West used animal blood as their food supply. Sabertooth, on the other hand, lived somewhere in between the West and the East, where they were in both human and vampire territory. They were infamous for the kidnapping of innocent humans and selling their blood in black markets. Most clans, that were for peace, hated them to the core. It was because of them and their growing population of barbarians the humans started to lose trust in vampires. It was as though the peace that had once been declared during the great war from centuries ago meant absolutely nothing.

Natsu, next to rule, was determined to wipe them off the face of the earth.

"We-" Before he could go off pouring his anger into words about Sabertooth, his arm sent a shockwave of pain coursing throughout his body and he fell to his knees, his breath harsh and his heart struggling like a caged bird. "W-we upgrade our de-defence, ask for volunteers, do whatever it takes t-to increase our troops' str-strength. We mu-must try stay str-strong." He gritted through the agonising pain he was feeling.

"Milord!" Erza cried and ran to his side, lifting him up by the arm and carefully seating him back down against his throne. "Shall I fetch the nurse? Do you need an ounce of blood?"

"I'm fine." He grunted as he shifted uncomfortably, the pain growing stronger by the second. "You are dismissed Captain."

Erza opened her mouth to retort but quickly snapped it shut. She knew better than to question a vampire prince. Hesitantly, she nodded before she took her leave.

His vision began to blur. The world was spinning and he felt absolutely horrible. His throat was parched, his muscles felt sore, his back ached with each movement and his head felt as if it was on fire.

When everything slowly seemed to go faint, he was sure he was about to fall unconscious. As his eyelids began flutter to close, that was when he heard the banging of the front door, the shouting of guards, and his pain immediately subsided. He shot up and looked down at himself, blinking and rubbing his eyes to make sure he was not dreaming. His eyes darted to the mark on his arm and gave it a skeptical look, wondering if it was going to start acting up again. Had his torture finally come to an end?

"Open the fucking door!" Gray screamed from the outside.

He quickly ran to the front where almost everyone was gathered around. The pouring rain thundered in the night, streaks of lightning flashed and danced. He pushed his way through the crowd to find Gray, holding onto a young woman—a human—with dirty blonde hair. His breath was caught in his throat as he stared at her in curiosity and caution.

Gray settled her on the floor gently, his shirt was soaked in mud and rain, his expression twisted into one that was filled with distress and dread.

Natsu knelt down beside the two and placed a hand on her dirt patched forehead, immediately retracting it when he felt the fierce fever radiating through her skin.

"Get Wendy now!" He ordered in an alarming state. Her breath came in harsh, desperate gasps, and her body trembled and shook. Gajeel, the fastest to react, ran off to search for Wendy, the castle's youngest and most trusted medic.

"What happened to her?" Natsu asked and his words came out as dry and rasp.

"Sabertooth." Gray murmured, "We found her when we were sweeping one of the watch towers that was raided by Eucliffe's men. She was one of the hostages—well, actually, she was the only hostage that managed to survive and she struck the final blow to their commander. You should've seen her Natsu, she was weakened to the point where she could barely stand and she still managed to throw a stake to his chest. Luckily, we managed to get her to safety before the reinforcements came."

Natsu stared in disbelief at the woman. It had always boggled his mind how much determination some humans had. Even if they had only a string of hope to hold on to, their will to live and to keep fighting was extraordinary.

Gajeel had finally returned with Wendy. In her hands she held a basket of medical supplies and a few bottles of healing herbs. Her

fingers quickly went to nurse her wounds and she tried not to rush her movements. She pried open the woman's pale lips and slipped a few drops of brewed medicine. Wendy, being oblivious to the blood-lusted eyes from both Gray and Natsu (him being the one most affected) from the sight of blood, continued to stitch the blonde's cuts as she gently wiped off her blood with a cloth.

"Well, the good news is that she's going to live." Wendy confirmed and earned a sigh of relief from Natsu, "But, she will need to rest. I'd say for at least a day. I gave her one of my herbs that will prevent the smell of her being human to be tracked by any vampire."

Natsu nodded and looked at the crowd that encircled them. "Then she will stay here for the night until she recovers and leave the next morning."

His arm gave a painful throb as he said that.

"That won't do." Quipped in a low voice. All heads turned to find the Igneel, the vampire king, walking in with his chest held high and his fangs glistening. He looked down at the woman and shook his head. "Reports from other kingdoms claim that most of the boarder between the East and the West have been secured by Sabertooth. With the amount of enforcement they have, I doubt we'll be getting through in a long time."

There were murmurs of agreement and worried voices concerning the fate of their kingdom. His father was right, there was no way they could make it through with the state of their troops and the declining numbers of good soldiers.

He hesitated a nod and took her limp figure into his arms, his heart fluttering with warmth as he held the human. She had stopped shaking a while ago and her expression had graced into a rather calm and serene state. Her breathing became quiet and her lips were slightly parted, a part of him was strangely drawn to the sight of them.

"I will escort her to my room and she will rest there for the time being." He said firmly, not trusting most of the soldiers and staff that they would not sneak in to drink her blood.

Grumbles erupted from the crowd as some were suspicious and wary of the presence of a human and some wondering if she could last long enough in a kingdom of vampires.

"Very well." His father nodded in approval and made a gesture to disperse the crowd, "She will now be your responsibility Natsu. You will see to it that by the end of this she will be alive and well."

As the sea parted and made way for the cold blooded creature and the human in his arms, Natsu walked to his chamber with a few pairs of worried eyes digging into his back.

Eventually, he made it to a lavished room filled with luxurious furniture and a dim light hanging from above. Most of the interior were coloured in a depressing hue of black and white with tints of red. Carefully, he placed her on his bed and decided to use the couch

to crash for the night. Before he left her sleeping figure, Natsu took the time to examine her features. She looked familiar, a little _too_ familiar and his mind could not wrap around who she was. His eyes trailed down to her hand, which was wrapped in cloth and tattered with dirt and blood. He made a mental note to ask Mirajane to clean her up the next morning.

Then, he left her and fell onto the couch, burying his face in a pile of pillows as he continued to wonder why had his mark suddenly stopped hurting.

* * *

><p>Author's note: Hi there! I hope you all like it so far and you'll stay with me through this journey :) Sorry if there are a ton of grammar errors, english isn't my first language. If anyone is interested in being a beta, feel free to PM me!

Also, Natsu might be a little ooc throughout the story (considering he's a Dark!natsu and also a badass vampire). If you're looking for a story where Lucy's a damsel in distress she will definitely not be displayed as one here.

Thanks for reading and look forward to a new chapter soon (:

2. Chapter 2

Chapter 2: The Man With A Craving For Blood

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><p>"At some point in history, it was recorded that humans and vampires lived in peace. They shared the land, the food, the shelter and all was fair. Historians from the East recall those days as 'The Harmonious Age' and till today, humans continue to tell the stories of the cold blood and the warm blood living together with not a shed of violence to their children. However, the West recalls the period as nothing but a myth. Although most vampires have lived through the period due to their long lifespan, many of those who I have asked denied the fact that has ever been a time when we all lived in the same plot of land. It still boggles my mind as to why they would never admit it. I presume it's the great war from centuries ago that caused this. But, I supposed we'll never know." â€"An extract from Levy McGarden's book: An Introductory To A World of Hate

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><p>Lucy awoke with a startled gasp to the sun's rays. She could feel the heat, slanting warm across the bed, covering her in gold and yellow. A foreign scent wafted through the air and her throat felt awfully dry. With a groan, she pushed herself up and found that she was in a bed that was definitely not hers. Suddenly, aware of the gravity of the situation, her eyes widened in horror as she fanatically inspected her surroundings wondering what the hell happened. One moment she was breathless on the dirt floor and the next she was lying in a luxurious bed that was way too comfortable than the ones back home.<p>

It was then she noticed there was a door across the room with the sounds of water running. Lucy froze, contemplating if she should run out of there as fast as possible or stay put and prepare to punch the fuck out of whoever was there. Her hand unconsciously reached for her side but noticed with dread, her whip was gone. She had nothing but the blankets and pillows that surrounded her.

_Stay calm Lucy. _She told herself as she tried to formulate a plan. _Come on, think! Maybe you can offer them money to let you go? Or maybe some food if they're hungry? _Her head turned to survey her surroundings and scratched the last two thoughts. Whoever kidnapped her probably had enough food and money to last them for generations to come. Now, the other thing she had to worry about was how she was going to explain the situation to her village leader if she ever managed to make it out alive. _I was distracted by a yellow mushroom and I thought it carried some special powers- no way. He might be stubborn but he isn't stupid. Maybe I should tell him I was trying to save some hostages? Right, like he would believe that, as if he thinks I can fight anyway. _

Eventually, the sounds of the water running was loud enough to convince Lucy that she could make an escape, that somehow and somehow whoever was taking a shower would not notice her silent and quick exit. She took a daring step to swing her legs off the bed, pushing the blankets away, and slowly crept towards the door. Her mind suddenly took her back to her younger days, when she had to sneak to steal food from fruit stands and parties. She mentally thanked the heavens for her childish ways finally coming into good use.

So far, so good.

Suddenly, there was a creek, a turn of a tap, the running of water slowly came to an end and a loud yawn. Lucy froze, every limb stayed in its place for the desperate fear of whoever was in the shower to find her. She sucked in a deep breath and prayed to every god there was to help her, and at the same time, she mentally cursed at a few of them for giving her the gift of the worst luck in the world.

Lucy concentrated through the movements and managed to focus by closing her eyes. She had to come up with a plan quick, but it seemed almost impossible to do so with all the possible outcomes running through her head. It was an absolute cluster of worries. Her stomach emitted bubbles of nausea, and she tried to wash away the image of her father looking down in disappointment at her, the faces of her family and friends turning away-

"Going somewhere?"

Every muscle in her body tensed at the sound of the low voice. Her voice was caught in her throat as her eyes immediately darted to the man with salmon coloured hair who stood leaning against the shower door. His gaze was dark and burning, setting fire onto every fibre of her skin. She swallowed thickly and she tried to compose herself, attempting to shoot back a look with the same amount of intensity.

"Well, you're definitely looking much better than yesterday." He said with a smirk as his gaze travelled from up to bottom, a light tint of red burned against her cheeks. "Though, I can't say much about your clothes. I'll get Virgo to clean you up."

Lucy blinked. It was then she realised she had been wearing the same muddy shirt and pants from yesterday. The material had gone sticky and torn as it clung onto her skin. She definitely needed whoever that Virgo person was to help clean her up.

She shook her head vigorously, she was getting distracted! _For goodness sake, you've just been kidnapped and you're thinking about taking a shower? _

"Who are you?" Lucy asked, her voice stern and demanding.

His eyes went wide for a moment, as though he was surprised that she spoke. The man's gaze shifted to trace her features, she could feel it, his fingers tugging and twitching on his half buttoned shirt and a loose tie clung around his neck. Then, his eyes suddenly went back to hers. He cleared his throat, as if to cut through the thick silence that lingered between them.

"My name is Natsu Dragneel, the vampire prince of Magnolia and yesterday, one of my men saved you. You were in critical condition and you were sent back here immediately." He explained as his eyes never left hers, "They said you put up quite a fight, even threw a stake to their commander's chest killing him. That's quite impressive for a human, especially when you were injured."

Lucy gaped at the man in front of her. She was savedâ€¦ _by vampires? _The creatures that everyone warned her about? The creatures that raided numerous villages in the East? The creatures that nearly killed her parents? She blinked at him, swiping a tongue across her bottom lip.

"Are youâ€¦ really a vampire?" She finally asked.

He looked at her, with a mischievous glint in his eyes, he opened his mouth to reveal his two sharp canine teeth catching the light.

Lucy gulped and shifted uncomfortably under his gaze. She was having an actual conversation with an actual vampire, the fact that she was still alive astounded her.

"So what were you doing in the West, human?" Natsu inquired, placing his hands on his hips. Lucy opened her mouth, attempting to force out the words that were stuck in her throat, but to no avail, her mouth moved but it merely formed silent syllables.

"Well?" He demanded, a slight frown of impatience pulled at his lips.

"I-I was trying to get something back." She stammered and her heart hammered against her chest, wondering if he was going to ask her what was she trying to get back. Even if she told him, it wasn't like he was going to believe her, anyway.

Instead, Natsu caught her wrist, she flinched at the sudden contact and tugged slightly against his hold. He stared intently at the hand that was wrapped in bandages. It was tattered in red and brown, she supposed it was her own blood with a mix of mud. Theâ€¦_thing _that lied beneath it started to hurt again. Short and quick throbs of pain ached from it and she felt herself slightly wince at the feeling. It

had been a few days since she felt the odd sensation that came from her hand and no one in her village knew what was going on. The doctors believed she could've been infected by an unknown disease and her parents thought she had been bitten by some sort of creature.

With his fingers still enveloped around her thin wrist, his thumb unconsciously soothed the palm of her hand. Lucy gasped slightly, taken a little off guard, but she didn't pull away. He examined each part of her hand closely, turning it to the side and back, studying each part as though it was something put on display.

His eyebrows furrowed in concern, "How are your other wounds?"

She shrugged, "They're doing fine. A few unhealed bruises here and there, but I think I can manage." Suddenly realising he had been holding her wrist for quite some time, quickly and as subtly as possible, she shook her wrist from his hold and pulled her hand close to her chest.

"What happened to your hand?"

Her body stiffened at the question. For a moment, Lucy pondered about telling him the truth, but seeing as she literally just met him, her parents taught her better than to reveal too much to strangers—especially vampires.

"While I was a hostage, at some point I angered one of the raiders and they slashed my hand with a blade." She wasn't lying about angering her kidnappers. Though, the injury they inflicted on her was a totally different injury on a totally different body part.

Natsu watched her for a moment, lips slightly pursed as though in deep thought. Then, he leaned in close, gaze settled intently on her hand and his face was mere inches away from hers.

"Come with me, we need to get that treated." He said and drew back, shoulders broad and chest out as he started to walk out of the room. Lucy attempted to catch up with him, her steps still shaky and unbalanced.

"Wait, hold on!" She piped up, earning his attention but he continued to walk at a fast pace. "The wound might look a bit different—well, it's not what you think it is. It's not exactly a cut. No! No. I mean. It is a cut! But not in the shape, of a cut, I mean of course it is, I just meant—"

"Save the explanation for later." He abruptly said and placed a finger to her lips, "You're in a castle filled with vampires and you must listen to my instructions very closely, do you understand?"

Lucy nodded and sounded a quiet noise against his finger.

"Keep your voice down and don't make eye contact with anyone but me or straight ahead. You are still in vampire territory, human, there are some here who wouldn't mind killing you if you look at them in any way." He whispered and pulled her close to his side. Lucy could only blink and nod to tell him that she understood every word.

The two walked side by side through the castle halls. Lucy noticed how the windows were covered in dark velvet curtains and the sky was a mixture of purple and blue. The ceilings hung chandeliers that glowed dim as it swayed and creaked in the darkness of the corridors. The floors were covered with carpets, patterns that originated from all over the West.

The people who roamed the halls had stopped, stared, and their looks varied from curiosity to disgust. She felt herself gulp as she tried to ignore their obvious whispers and chatters. Her eyes were focused intently on the road straight ahead and the direction where Natsu was leading her to.

A little voice at the back of her head whispered silent doubts. Maybe, this vampire prince was not to be trusted? Maybe, he was going to drain her blood and use it for his own selfish purposes? She had heard too many stories and rumours of those who had mysteriously disappeared from her village. Feeling a little more alarmed, she held her hand tighter and closer to her chest, her eyes slightly wide with worry.

"We're here."

Natsu had stopped in front of a blue door and knocked on it three times. Sounds of rustling and bottles being knocked over erupted from inside, a feminine yelp and another squeaked "sorry" over and over again. The door was then slammed open and there stood a woman, her hair white and long and her lips graced a soft smile.

"Ah, Milord, what a pleasant surprise." She said and her gaze shifted to Lucy who had moved behind him, "Is this the human everyone's been talking about?"

"That's right. Gray rescued her from Eucliffe's men and she was severely injured. Although Wendy healed most of her wounds," He paused and took her bandaged wrist and lifted it up, "this still hasn't recovered."

She inspected it with pursed lips. For a full minute, they stood there in silence as Mirajane continued to look at her hand that sent short throbs of pain through her arm every once in a while. The silence was cut by her sigh and she nodded at her conclusion.

"You two better come in. I think I might know what's happening."

The room was like most medical rooms Lucy had been in. They were filled with medicines and books, some jars and bottles were toppled over and paper scattered across tables. There was a girl with dark blue hair, who Lucy supposed was no older than 16, was busy throwing away the scattered pieces of a flask. Her heart gave a throb of pity and she wondered if she should offer help, but the small voice in her head had returned to remind her to keep her guard up.

"Sit here." Mirajane motioned to a stool next to a large desk where it was the messiest. As she took her seat, the doctor— who she believed was Mirajane, settled a box of medical supplies beside her.

"Can I take this off?" She asked softly, motioning to her bandaged hand. Lucy stayed silent, chewing on her bottom lip as she

contemplated. After a moment, she nodded hesitantly. It wasn't like she could say no to a room full of vampires.

Mirajane slowly began to unwrap the dirty cloth that covered her hand. She continued to suppress the urge to make a face of pain as the ache had returned. Whatever it was, she silently prayed that vampire doctors knew what to do with it.

"Milord." Mirajane suddenly said. Her voice was quiet and filled with shock as she stared with wide eyes at Lucy's uncovered hand. Slowly, she started to back away from the human. "Milord, please, you need to see this."

"What is it Mira-" Natsu stopped in his steps and craned his head to what Mirajane was looking at, then, he froze. His shoulders had gone stiff and tense and his eyes were wide with his mouth slightly parted open. The entire room went silent except for the sounds of the girl cleaning up the shards of glass. Lucy looked at both of them in utter confusion, her stomach clenched in worry, wondering what in the world had happened.

"Sheâ€”the mark." His voice wavered. "How?"

"I sensed something was odd about her the moment you brought her to my door but I didn't think she wasâ€”"

"A humanâ€”is that even possible?"

Mirajane nodded with a sigh, "There has been some cases of this, but never has there been a case of a royal blooded vampire with a human mate."

Wait, did she just say _mate?_

"Mate?" Lucy suddenly spoke up and the two turned their attention to her, "What do you mean by that?"

They both wore troubled expressions, Natsu's frown only deepened at her question. They exchanged a few more words before Natsu walked towards her, yanking her up by the arm and she stumbled slightly at his action. Then, without another word, he took her by the wrist and swiftly guided them out of the room to their next destination.

"Where are we going?" Lucy attempted to ask as she tried to keep up, her wrist feeling a little sore by how hard he was gripping it.

He remained silent as they entered a large room with three massive seats in the middle. The room was surrounded with guards and some others who were dressed in formal attire. Lucy came to a sudden revelation that she was in the throne room and the man who sat in the largest seat in the middle, was the king.

Her skin crawled with horror as she was brought in front of the man who ruled the kingdom she was currently in. He looked at her solemnly, his appearance showed power and superiority. There was something about him that made him dangerous yet peaceful at the same time. The king had blood red hair tied into a long pony tail, a crown that glistened under candle lights and eyes that were almost as dark as Natsu's.

"Father." Natsu said, inclining his head in respect, but his body shook with anger.

"You may rise." The king said calmly, as though he did not notice the state his son was in.

Natsu swallowed thickly and pointed towards Lucy, who kept her head down as though in shame. "This humanâ€" you knew about it the entire time didn't you? You knew she was my mate the minute she arrived." His voice was low and each word tried to hide the obvious livid anger that radiated from him.

"Of course I did." He said, almost emotionless as looked at Lucy with an amused smile curling at his lips, "How rude of me, I believe introductions are in order."

"Father." Natsu said again.

"My name is Igneel Dragneel, the vampire king of Magnolia and this is my son Natsu. I'm sure you have figured out by now you're currently in the West. We're clan Fairy Tail, a group of vampires who are for peace. The vampires who took you hostage was clan Sabertooth, an enemy and threat to most of the clans who reside in the West." He smiled kindly, "I can tell you're tense, human, please relax. I understand this is a lot to take in but don't worry, we will not hurt you. Unlike Sabertooth, we don't drink human blood."

Lucy released a sigh of relief. Although she still had a jumble of thoughts spinning in her head she knew Igneel was telling the truth about how most of the vampires wouldn't hurt her in this castleâ€"well so far that wasn't anyone trying to lunge at her.

"What's your name?" He asked, causing Lucy to flick her gaze up to him.

"I'mâ€"it's Lucy Heartfilia." She said quietly, slowly peering to Natsu who stood by her side with the same frown from earlier.

"Father I still don't understand," Natsu snapped and looked at the king, his eyes narrowing into a glare, "Why didn't you tell me earlier? And how in the world can my mate be â€" _a human_?" His last words slipped off his lips like venom, causing Lucy to scowl.

Igneel sighed. "Sometimes, even I don't have the answer to these things Natsu, but they do happen."

"I-I'm sorry, but can anyone please explain what does this 'mate' thing mean?" Lucy spoke up, surprising herself by her sudden surge of courage.

Natsu went awfully silent as he started to peel his clothes off. Lucy felt her face flush as she immediately turned around, coughing awkwardly as she tried to focus on the masked guards that surrounded the room.

"Look." His voice made her attention turn to his finger that was

pointing to his bare shoulder, where a mark similar to the one on her hand was imprinted on his skin. It was coloured in a dark shade of red, while hers was light pink.

"You see this mark? This means you're my mate, as in the person I'm supposed to be with for the rest of my life. It's something most vampires have to go through, but most of the time, their mates aren't usuallyâ€|_human._" He said and took a step closer to her. She stared at both of their marks in shock, finally coming to a conclusion it had not been an infection or a wound, but a mate mark.

It was then, Natsu leaned in to her ear, his breath ghosting against the shell and Lucy suppressed the urge to shudder out a breath. She stayed still in her spot, her lips pressed tightly together, her eyes wide and her breathing had gone quiet.

"Listen carefully," He whispered, his voice low and she could see the shine of his fangs, "You are my mate and that makes you mine. You are to stay at my side and only my side. No one will be able to have you and no one will be able to _touch _you." Her face went red, "Do you understand me, Lucy?"

"Yes." She said, her head slightly fuzzy and softly pushed him away from her body and was met with an uncomfortable emptiness. "Iâ€|I understand."

She tried to tell herself she understood the situation. She tried to convince herself that she was now the mate of a stranger she barely knew, not to mention the stranger just so happened to be a vampire prince, and that was going to be her whole life and she was going to be _okay _with it. Becauseâ€"yeah, that's right, It was a totally normal thing to happen. Most people- or okay, _some people _became mates of vampires too. She wasn't the only one. But then again, no one ever told her what happened to them at the end. Were they were killed off? Sold as blood banks? Or maybe they ended up living happily after and raised a great family of half vampire humans?

Her brain gave a little internal whimper.

"Then it's settled," He said, already heading out of the throne room and his clothes back on. "Come with me and we'll get you cleaned."

With one last look at the King who flashed her a sympathetic smile, she quickly caught up with Natsu and stayed by his side, just as he told her too.

"What's your favourite colour?" He suddenly asked.

She blinked. "Oh, I uh, I don't really have one."

"Then I guess you'll have to stick with wearing pink." He nodded, satisfied with his choice.

"Pink?" She mumbled and she couldn't help but to smile as she said that. "Out of all colours, why pink?"

"I figured you would look nice in pink." Natsu said with a small smirk, and Lucy thought he was joking, but when she saw the look on his face, her cheeks turned bright red.

* * *

><p>Author's note: Oh my gosh! Thank you all so much for the reviews from the previous chapter! They really helped motivate me to write this chapter as fast as I can. I'm also really happy that most of you like the idea of strong Lucy. She's really an interesting character to work with and in this chapter I showed more of her vulnerable side, since she's literally just been captured by vampires and now she's suddenly a mate of one, it's definitely a lot to take in, even for a character of her personality.

Thank you for the amount of you who volunteered to be a beta for the story! But because I'm currently on a holiday with my family, the beta will only be confirmed by next week (the next update), I'm very sorry for the wait and I'll try to get back to you guys as soon as possible. I intend on updating at least every week, but I'm not very sure at the moment.

Here's a fun fact: I was actually inspired by Spirited Away to write this. With the whole going to another world with no way back and suddenly a bunch of strange characters appear is really what most of the aspects of this story is based on.

Thanks for reading and once again, thanks so much for the support!
See you in the next chapter (:

End
file.